

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

Austin, Texas, October 29, 1942

The City Council convened in regular session, at the regular meeting place in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Building, on Thursday, October 29, 1942, at 10:30 A. M., with Mayor Tom Miller presiding. Roll call showed the following members present: Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; absent, Councilman Bartholomew.

There were present also: Walter E. Senholm, Acting City Manager; J. E. Motheral, City Engineer; Gibson R. Randle, Acting City Attorney; and R. D. Thorp, Chief of Police.

The Minutes of the regular meeting of October 22, 1942, were read, and upon motion of Councilman Alford, were adopted as read by the following vote: "ayes," Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; "nays," none; Councilman Bartholomew absent.

Mrs. Edward W. Meier presented a letter from the Ladies Auxiliary of Travis Post No. 76, requesting that the Mayor, by proclamation, designate November 11 as "Poppy Day." The request was granted.

The appeal of Hillery Owens, 901 Dawson Road, by Ayres K. Ross, Attorney, on his application for a taxicab driver's permit, which had been recommended for denial, was heard. After a discussion of the matter, it was moved by Councilman Alford that the application be granted, upon condition that the said Hillery Owens report to the Chief of Police on January 1, 1943, for a check of his record. The motion prevailed by the following vote: "ayes," Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; "nays," none; Councilman Bartholomew absent.

W. D. Hoover came before the Council and asked that the Christian Army Church at 2001 Burton Street, be allowed a half-rate on water and light. The matter was referred to the Acting City Attorney for investigation and recommendation.

The application of Lloyd G. Davis, 509 West 8th Street, for a license to operate as a taxicab a Studebaker Sedan, 1941 Model, Serial No. 4182015, License No. M15-588, approved by the Acting City Manager, was submitted. Councilman Gillis moved that the application be granted. The motion prevailed by the following vote: "ayes," Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; "nays," none; Councilman Bartholomew absent.

Emmett Shelton, Attorney for James Shelton, appeared before the Council relative to the claim of his client for personal injuries sustained at Stacy Swimming Pool. He was referred to the Acting City Manager and the Acting City Attorney, pending their recommendations to the Council on the matter.

Councilman Wolf introduced the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THAT CERTAIN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE OPERATION OF TAXICABS AND TAXICAB DRIVERS IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN UNDER THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY; PRESCRIBING LICENSE FEES FOR TAXICABS AND DRIVERS THEREOF; LICENSING AND REGULATING TAXICAB TERMINAL OPERATORS; PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING A SAVING CLAUSE; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES, EXCEPTING CERTAIN JITNEY ORDINANCE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY," WHICH ORDINANCE WAS PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN DECEMBER 15, 1938, AND IS RECORDED IN BOOK "K", PAGES 140-152, OF THE ORDINANCE RECORDS OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, BY AMENDING SECTION 5, SUBDIVISIONS (a) AND (b) OF SAID ORDINANCE, WHICH SUBDIVISIONS REGULATE AND REQUIRE THE FILING OF INSURANCE AND SURETY BOND COVERAGE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The Ordinance read the first time and Councilman Wolf moved that the rules be suspended and the Ordinance be passed to its second reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Alford, and the same prevailed by the following vote: "ayes," Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; "nays," none; Councilman Bartholomew absent.

The Ordinance was then read the second time and Councilman Wolf moved that the rules be further suspended and the Ordinance be passed to its third reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Alford,

and the same prevailed by the following vote: "ayes," Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; "nays," none; Councilman Bartholomew absent.

The Ordinance was then read the third time and Councilman Wolf moved that the Ordinance be finally passed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Alford, and the same prevailed by the following vote: "ayes," Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; "nays," none; Councilman Bartholomew absent.

The Mayor then announced that the Ordinance had been finally passed.

E. P. Cravens and J. F. Springfield, General Manager of the Austin Transit Company, appeared before the Council in the matter of the discontinuance of the Ridgetop Bus Line, and asked that the following communication be placed of record:

"EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Washington, D.C.

The Office of Defense Transportation
Joseph B. Eastman, Director

October 17, 1942

Mr. J. F. Springfield, General Manager
Austin Transit Company
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Springfield:

This letter is being written in confirmation of the decision rendered during your recent visit by Mr. W. S. Rainville, Jr., of this Division in the matter of the Ridge Top extension or Ridge Top shuttle bus line.

This office cannot accept any compromise in the form of a reduction in service on this line or a partial elimination of the extension. The Ridge Top line was inaugurated contrary to the policies of this Office with the full knowledge of your company and the officials of the City of Austin. In order to conform to our Statement of Policy of April 17, 1942, the entire extension should be abandoned.

Our records indicate that you have a number of integral type buses on order within the quota approved for construction by the War Production Board. This Office cannot recommend the release of these vehicles for delivery until the Ridge Top extension has been discontinued.

It is suggested that you send us as soon as possible a copy of the action of your City Council permitting you to discontinue this service and showing the date on which it will be discontinued.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Guy A. Richardson
Director, Division of
Local Transport.

Following a discussion of the matter, Councilman Wolf then offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, there was presented to the City Council of the City of Austin on May 28, 1942, a petition by approximately 200 citizens asking for bus service extensions in the Ridgetop area; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 1942, there was presented to the City Council an additional petition by approximately 35 civilian pilot students and citizens who would also be served by such extensions by thereby obtaining needed transportation to the Municipal Airport where Civilian Pilot Training was being given as part of the war training program; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Austin, at its regular meeting on June 11, 1942, after due notice and hearing, ordered the Austin Street Railway Company, also known as the Austin Transit Company, to make certain extensions in its service in the Ridgetop area by June 25, 1942; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 1942, the commencement date was extended by the City Council to June 29, 1942; and

WHEREAS, the said action by the City Council was taken upon the bona fide belief and understanding that federal regulations permitted bus extensions up through June 30, 1942; and

WHEREAS, the extensions so ordered were commenced and have been continued by the said company, and are now being operated with great advantage to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Transit Company has now advised the City Council that the Office of Defense Transportation has notified the said company that it could not recommend the releasing of certain new buses now on order until the Ridgetop extensions have been discontinued, stating as its reason that such extensions were prohibited by its Statement of Policy of April 17, 1942; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Transit Company has advised the City Council that a compliance with said communication from the Office of Defense Transportation will enable the company to obtain six of such buses now on order and possibly to obtain an additional twelve buses now on order;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

THAT the Austin Transit Company be, and it is hereby, authorized to discontinue, as of November 6, 1942, the Ridgetop extension hereinabove referred to, which extension was commenced on June 29, 1942, on routes approved by the City Council in a resolution adopted by the City Council on July 2, 1942, and recorded in Minute Book 20, pages 1 and 2, of the Minutes of the City Council of the City of Austin.

Upon motion of Councilman Wolf, the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote: "ayes," Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; "nays," none; Councilman Bartholomew absent.

The written request of Mrs. J. D. Hedick, 602 Harris Avenue, that the name of Harris Avenue be changed to Robert Lee, in order to eliminate the confusion arising from a duplication of street names, was received; and the matter was referred to the City Engineer for consideration and recommendation.

The following resolution was offered:

(RESOLUTION)

WHEREAS, City of Austin taxes were assessed in the name of Ethel Carleton for the years 1933, 1934, 1936, and 1937, on 92'x128' of Lot 4, and the east 23' of Lot 3, Block 168, Original City of Austin, Texas, said taxes being for the sum of \$181.71; and for non-payment of same at maturity, penalty in the sum of \$9.08 has been assessed, and interest in the sum of \$72.31, making the total amount of taxes, penalty, and interest, \$263.10; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Austin deems it just and equitable to remit said penalty in the sum of \$9.08, and one-half of the interest, in the sum of \$36.15; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

THAT the aforesaid penalty in the sum of \$9.08 and one-half of the interest, in the sum of \$36.15, are hereby remitted, and the Tax Assessor and Collector of the City of Austin is authorized and directed to charge said penalty, in the sum of \$9.08, and one-half of the interest, in the sum of \$36.15, off his rolls, and to issue to the party entitled to receive same a receipt in full upon the payment of said taxes and one-half of the interest, as aforesaid.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote: "ayes," Councilmen Alford, Gillis, Mayor Miller, and Councilman Wolf; "nays," none; Councilman Bartholomew absent.

Upon motion, seconded and carried, the meeting was recessed at 12:15 P. M., subject to call of the Mayor.

Approved Tom Miller
MAYOR

Attest:

Wallis M. Keller
CITY CLERK